

# Department of Planning and Development



## **BUDGET PRESENTATION**

Zoning and Planning Committee

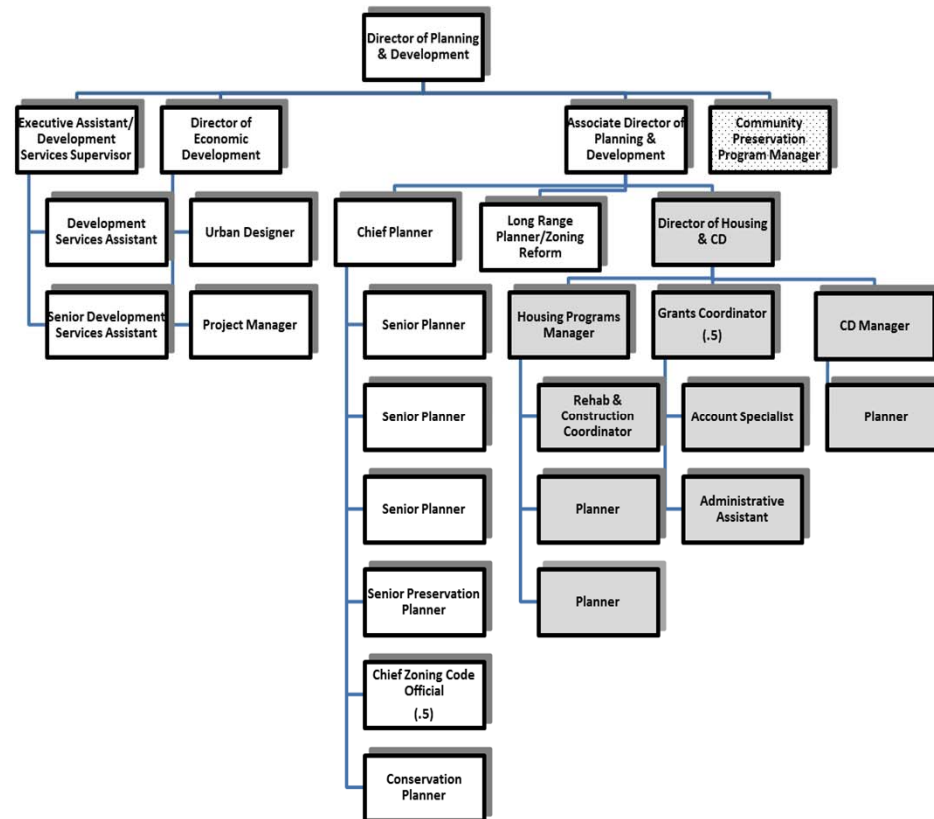
April 24, 2014

# The Mission of the Department is...

2

*...to preserve and enhance  
the quality of community life, as well as  
the natural and built environments  
for all who visit, live and work in Newton  
~ now and for the future.*

# Department of Planning and Development



Grey boxes indicate federally-funded positions; box with dots is funded by Newton's Community Preservation Fund

# Committees and Commissions assisted by Planning Department

4

- Board Committees
  - Land Use Committee
  - Public Safety and Transportation Committee
  - Real Property Reuse Committee
  - Traffic Council
  - Zoning and Planning Committee
- Auburndale Historic District Commission
- Austin Street Evaluation Group
- Brookline-Newton-Waltham-Watertown Continuum of Care
- Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission
- Commission on Disability
- Community Preservation Committee
- Conservation Commission
- Economic Development Commission
- Economic Development Advisory Committee
- Fair Housing Committee
- Farm Commission (Angino)
- Human Services Advisory Committee
- Newton Corner Advisory Committee
- Newton Historical Commission
- Newton Housing Partnership
- Newton Upper Falls Historic District Commission
- Newtonville Advisory Committee
- Newtonville Historic District Commission
- Nonantum Advisory Committee
- Planning and Development Board
- Transportation Advisory Group (TAG)
- Waban Hill Reservoir Advisory Group
- West Newton Advisory Committee
- Urban Design Commission
- Zoning Board of Appeals

# FY14 Accomplishments

5

**Conservation** ▪ Protect and enhance our natural resources for public enjoyment

**Historic Preservation** ▪ Protect and appreciate our historic resources

**Economic Development** ▪ Foster business success and community vitality for the City's long-term fiscal stability

**Long-Range Planning** ▪ Continue to implement the goals of the Comprehensive Plan and plan for the future

**Land Use** ▪ Foster great places where people of all ages, incomes, and abilities can live, work and play

**Community Development and Housing** ▪ Improve the quality of community life for people of all ages and abilities, and assure access to a diversity of housing that is safe and affordable

# Housing and Community Development

## Affordable Housing Development

6



54 Eddy Street

## Housing and Community Development First-Time Homebuyer Program

7

- \$475,000 in new Homebuyer funds approved
- Guidelines revised
- Prepared Local Action Unit Application for State pre-approval of new Subsidized Housing Inventory units

# Community Development and Housing

## Housing Rehabilitation Program

8

- 12 projects completed
- Revised rehab guidelines for all-hazard abatement
- Worked with Green Decade and Newton Eco Teams to encourage homeowners to make their homes more energy efficient



# Community Development and Housing

## Housing Rehabilitation Program

9

- Not wheelchair accessible



- ADA compliant



# Community Development and Housing

## Housing Rehabilitation Program

10



Estimated supply of accessible, affordable housing

Identified the spatial distribution of racial and ethnic groups and poverty within Newton

Fair Housing event in May

Promoting Fair Housing education and information through Facebook Page



## Housing and Community Development Fair Housing



\$1.38 million from HUD  
for homeless assistance  
in Continuum of Care  
program funds

\$751,353 for existing  
Newton programs

\$123,041 Federal  
Emergency Solutions  
Grant funds for shelter  
services

## COUNT US IN!

### MA YOUTH COUNT!

BROOKLINE , NEWTON, WALTHAM & WATERTOWN

JANUARY 29 - FEBRUARY 5, 2014

PLACE YOUR AGENCY STICKER HERE



#### ARE YOU.....

24 YEARS OR YOUNGER?

UNSURE OF WHERE YOU'LL SLEEP TONIGHT?

COUCH SURFING?

HOMELESS?

### **BE COUNTED AND BE HEARD!**

## Housing and Community Development

## Homelessness and Prevention Services

# Community Development and Housing

## Shelter Services and Homelessness Prevention

13

### **Federal Emergency Solutions Grant**

- Middlesex Human Service Agency
  - Emergency Shelters for Homeless Women and Men
- REACH Beyond Domestic Violence
  - Emergency Shelter Services for Survivors of Domestic Violence
- The Second Step
  - Services for Survivors of Domestic Violence
- Brookline Community Mental Health Center
  - Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing

# Community Development and Housing

## CDBG ~ Public Services

14



Boys & Girls Club  
Kids Corp

### Youth Services

Organization/Program	Project
John M. Barry Boys & Girls Club	Teen Programs
West Suburban YMCA	Teen Programs
Newton Health and Human Services Department	Youth Outreach Counseling
Riverside Community Care	Family Crisis Stabilization

### Children's Needs

Organization/Program	Project
Bowen After School Program	Tuition Assistance Program
John M. Barry Boys & Girls Club	Camp Scholarships
	Kids Corp Scholarships
Newton Child Care Fund	Child Care Scholarship Fund
Newton Parks and Recreation Department	Summer Camp Scholarships
Peirce Extended Day Program	Extended Day Scholarship Program
Plowshares Education Development Center	Tuition Assistance Program
Newton Community Service Center	Child Care Scholarships

# Community Development and Housing

## Adult/Family

## CDBG ~ Public Services

Organization/Program	Project
Newton Community Service Center	Parent Child Home Program
	The Parents Program
REACH Beyond Domestic Violence	Individual Support and Advocacy
Riverside Community Care	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Recovery
Cousens Fund	Emergency Assistance

## People with Disabilities

Organization/Program	Project
Barry Price Center	Job Developer and Coach
	Person Centered Planning
Charles River Center	Children's Programs Scholarships
	Music Therapy
NWW Committee	Clinical Services and Supports
	Community Access
	Wednesday Night Drop-In

## Elders

Organization/Program	Project
Newton Community Development Foundation	Resident Services Program
Jewish Community Housing for the Elderly	Caring Choices
Newton Senior Services Department	Senior Center Program Coordinator
	Social Services Program
Newton Housing Authority	Resident Services Coordinator
Newton Health and Human Services Department	Mental Health Intervention for the Elderly

# Community Development and Housing

## CDBG ~ Neighborhood Improvements

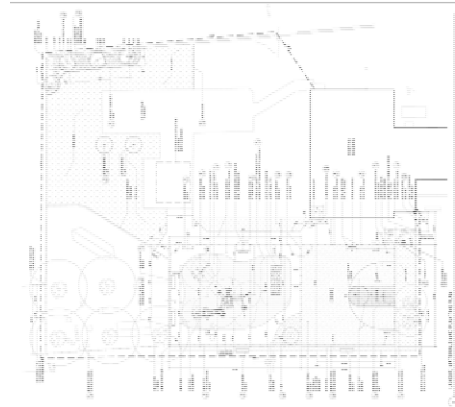
16

- Watertown Street Infrastructure Improvements

- Curb cuts
- Sidewalks
- Crosswalks

- Pellegrini Park

- New playground equipment, half basketball court, benches, trees and fencing





# Community Development and Housing

## CDBG ~ Access Improvements

17

- Improved access for people with disabilities
  - Installed 13 curb cuts
  - 7 curb extensions
- Improved safety for pedestrians and motorists in Newton Centre
  - Pelham and Pleasant Streets
  - Langley Road on Centre Street



# Conservation and Environment

18

- Conservation areas
  - New annual maintenance contract
  - New deferred maintenance program (trailhead redesign)
- Hammond Pond
  - Identified remediation strategy and supported funding requests
- Completed Open Space and Recreation Plan
- Conservation Commission Administration
  - 18 Orders of Condition
  - 15+ Determinations of Applicability
  - 15+ Certificates of Compliance
  - Addressed numerous violations
  - Worked to streamline the permitting process
  - Worked with DPW on citywide storm water improvements

# Historic Preservation

19

## ■ Grants

- Completing 3<sup>rd</sup> survey of 120 Early Industrial Period buildings(1850-1870)

## ■ Education

- Walking tours for Historic Newton
- Rededication of Civil War Monument
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest in Massachusetts
  - May 18, 1 pm at Newton Cemetery

## ■ Reviews

- 196 applications for demolition
- 92 applications in 4 local historic districts



~ Newton Civil War Monument~  
Recently found eligible for listing on  
National Register of Historic Places

# Economic Development

20

- Economic Target Area for Regional Technology
- Map promoting restaurants, the City, and its village centers
- Second Annual Business Excellence Awards
- N<sup>2</sup> Initiative for Newton/Needham corridor



# Economic Development

21



- Community Engagement
  - Merchants' Associations
    - Newton Centre
    - Newton Highlands
  - Area Councils/Neighborhood Associations
  - Village Days Newtonville, Newton Centre, West Newton, Nonantum
- Liaison to Local Businesses
  - Façade Improvement Program
  - Commercial Real Estate Connection
  - Assistance with City processes
  - Women's Enterprise Initiative
  - Campaign with Chamber of Commerce to "Shop Local"

# Economic Development

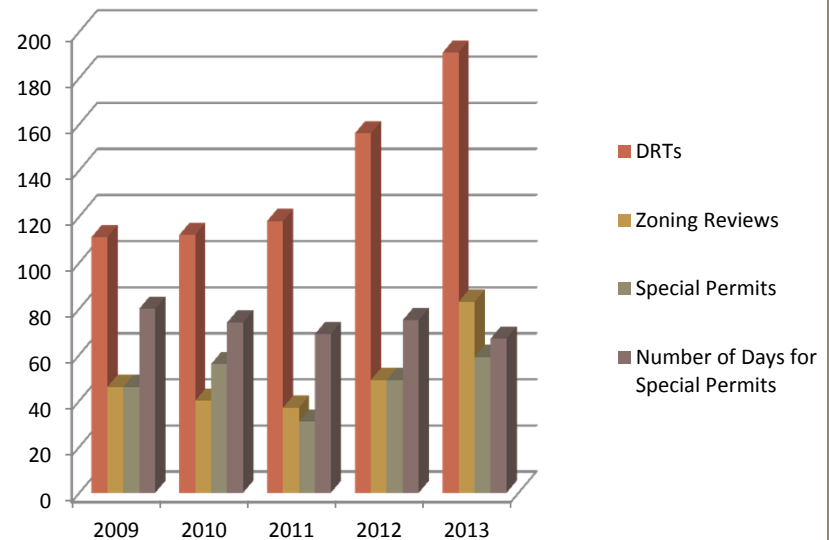
22

MAJOR PROJECTS	Concept	Citizen Input	Zoning/ Design	Reviews/Approvals	Construct
Chestnut Hill Square	X	X	X	X	X
Needham Street Reconstruction	X	X	X		
Austin Street Parking Lot Reuse	X	X	RFP Zoning		
Chestnut Hill Shopping Center	X	X	X	X	X
Riverside MBTA Station	X	X	X	X	
Cypress Street Parking Lot	X	X			

# Land Use

23

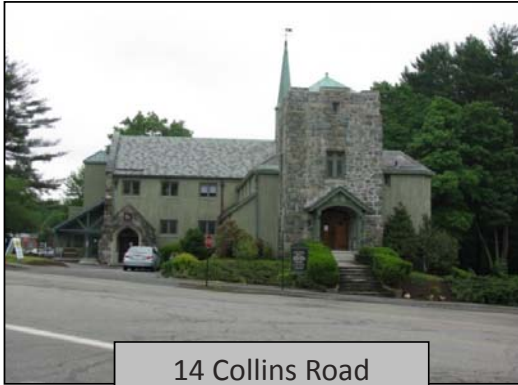
- 59 special permit applications
- Technical reviews for projects
  - DRT Reviews (191)
  - Zoning Reviews (83)
  - Other Reviews (133)
    - Wireless installations (3)
    - Accessory Apartments (4)
    - Institutional reviews (7)
    - Sign Permits (115)
    - Comprehensive Permits
    - 5-58 Reviews (4)
      - Carr School
      - Modulares at 4 schools
      - Angier
      - Fire Station #10





# Land Use

24



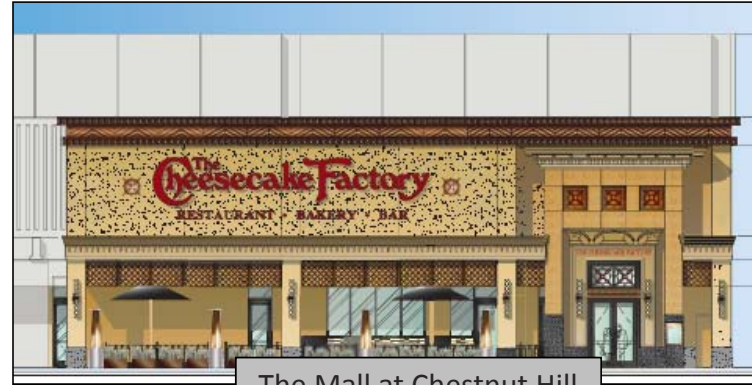
14 Collins Road



The Station at Riverside



170 Needham Street



The Mall at Chestnut Hill



# Transportation

25

## Improve all modes of transportation

- Neighborhood parking plans
  - Auburndale Village Parking District
  - Library/City Hall
  - Carr School
- Worked with TAG Team to further TAC recommendations
- Design Classifications for Roadways
- Completed Citywide Parking Management Plan
- Traffic Council held 9 meetings for 67 items

# Long-Range Planning

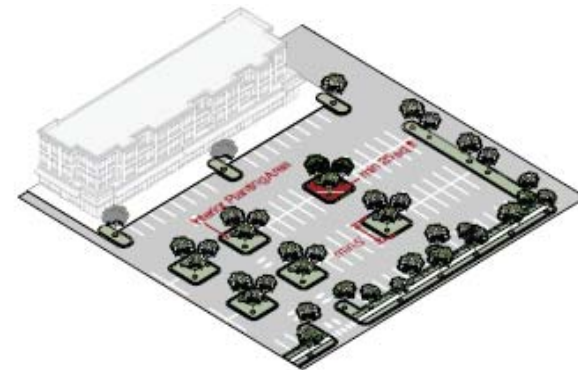
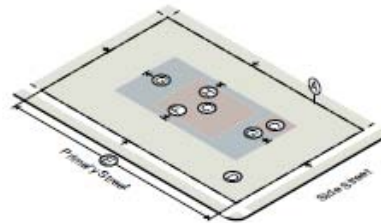
26

## ■ Zoning Reform Phase 1

- Draft ordinance prepared
- Final review in progress

## ■ Needham Street

- Prepared Briefing Book
- Land Use/Transportation System Analysis



# Goals for FY15

27

**Conservation** ▪ Protect and enhance our natural resources for public enjoyment

**Historic Preservation** ▪ Protect and appreciate our historic resources

**Economic Development** ▪ Foster business success and community vitality for the City's long-term fiscal stability

**Long-Range Planning** ▪ Continue to implement the goals of the Comprehensive Plan and plan for the future

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# This Year's Budget Changes

28

## City-funded changes

- Budgeted FY15 \$1,432,005
- Budgeted FY14 \$1,344,497
- **FY15 Increase of \$ 87,508 (+6.51%)**

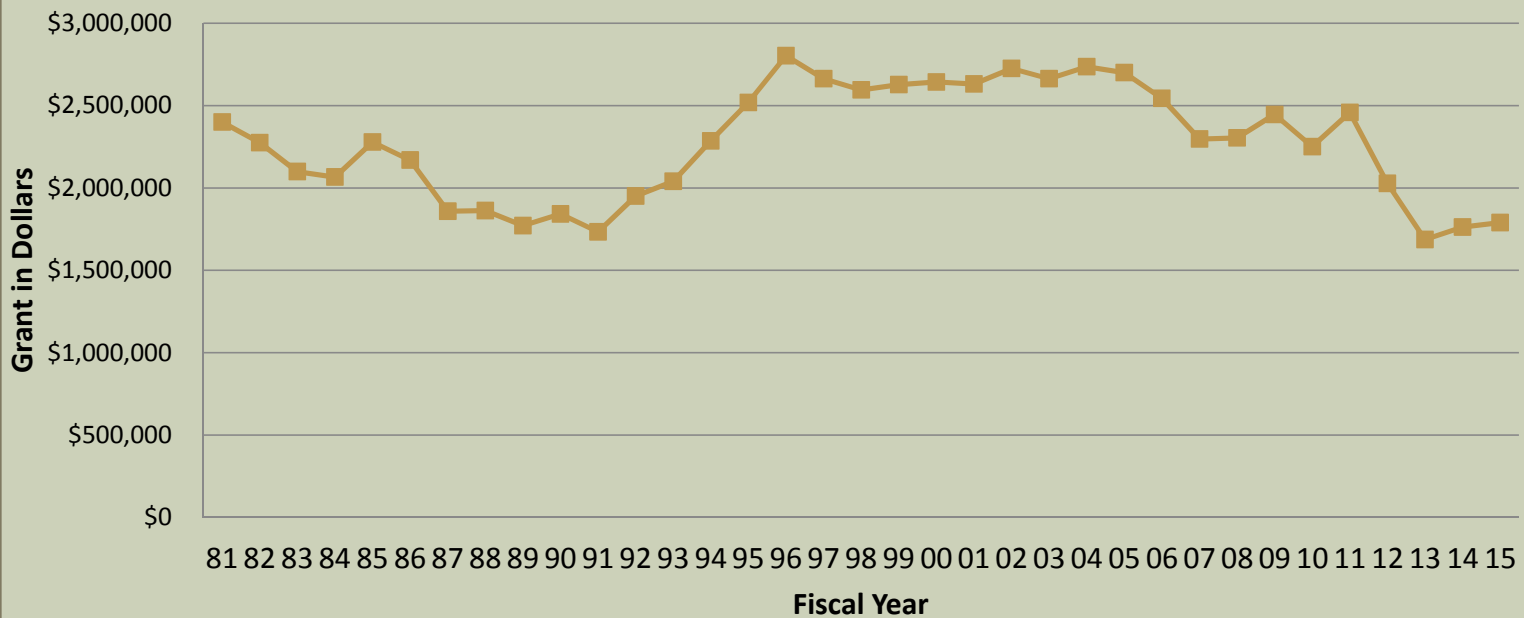
## Federally-funded changes

- CDBG \$1,789,510 (+1.52%)
- HOME \$1,239,898 (+2.32%)
- ESG \$143,202 (+16.39%)
- Total \$3,172,610
- **FY15 Increase of \$74,889 (+2%)**

# Annual Changes to Newton's CDBG Allocation

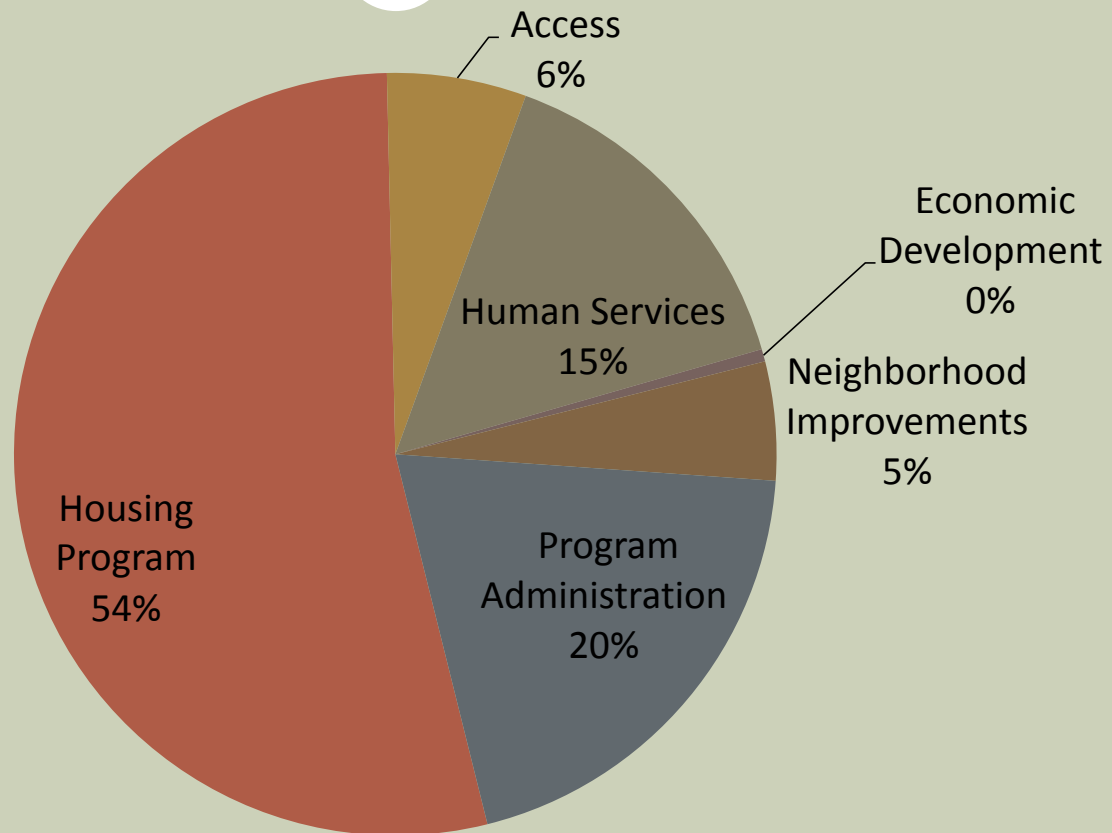
FY1981 - 2015

29



## FY15 CDBG Funding by Program Area

30



# Community Development and Housing

31

## CDBG Funds

Project	Funding Amount
Housing Rehabilitation and Development Program	\$560,624
Revolving loan fund (est. loan repayments)	\$119,500

## HOME Funds

Project	Funding Amount
Affordable Housing Development Pool	\$128,172
CHDO Operating Expenses @ 5%	\$10,555

# Community Development and Housing

32

- Develop Tenant-based Rental Assistance Program
  - Supplement existing rental assistance
  - Includes formerly homeless
- Rehab 10 units for low- to moderate-income homeowners
- Assist 3 buyers through the Homebuyer Assistance Program
- Affordable housing trust
  - Capitalize with CPA funds
- Fund 1-2 affordable housing projects with \$1.6 million



# Community Development and Housing

33



# Community Development and Housing

34

- Fair Housing Education and Advocacy
  - Trainings and consultation with city officials
- Fair Housing Research, Monitoring and Compliance
  - Accessible Housing Supply and Demand
  - Accessibility Monitoring System
  - Housing Discrimination Questionnaire
  - Reasonable Accommodations in City-funded developments
  - Regional *Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice*

# Community Development and Housing

35

## Architectural Access

- Priority #1: Public thoroughfare improvements \$72,500
- Priority #2: Parks and Recreational Improvements \$45,000
- Newton Centre Playground Pathway (Phase VI)





# Community Development and Housing

36



**Newton Community Service Center  
Child Care Garden**



**Newton Senior Center**

**John M. Barry Boys & Girls  
Club – Teen Programs**



**Newton Community Service Center  
Parent/Child Home Program Play Group**

**Barry Price Center  
Person-Centered  
Planning Program**



# Community Development and Housing

37

Children - Organizations	Project	Funding Amount
Bowen After School Program	Tuition Assistance Program	\$5,223
John M. Barry Boys and Girls Club	Camp Scholarships	\$2,069
	Kids Corps Scholarships	\$4,105
The Newton Partnership, Inc.	Child Care Scholarship Fund	\$10,445
Newton Community Service Center	Child Care Scholarships	\$14,174
Newton Parks and Recreation Department	Summer Camp Scholarships	\$2,069
Peirce Extended Day Program	Extended Day Scholarship Program	\$4,555
Plowshares Education Development Center	Tuition Assistance Program	\$10,445

# Community Development and Housing

38

Youth - Organization	Project	Funding Amount
John M. Barry Boys and Girls Club	Teen Programming	\$4,105
West Suburban YMCA	Teen Programs	\$29,903
Newton Health and Human Services Department	Youth Outreach Counseling	\$13,204
Riverside Community Care	Family Crisis Stabilization	\$3,882

Adult/Family Organization	Project	Funding Amount
Newton Comm. Service Center	Parent Child Home Program	\$3,732
	The Parents Program	\$19,618
REACH Beyond Domestic Viol.	Individual Support and Advocacy	\$3,472
The Cousens Fund	Emergency Assistance	\$11,877
Riverside Community Care	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Recovery	\$16,038

# Community Development and Housing

39

Elders - Organizations	Project	Funding Amount
Newton Community Development Foundation	Resident Services Program	\$16,421
Jewish Community Housing for the Elderly	Caring Choices	\$9,196
Newton Senior Services Department	Senior Center Program Coordinator	\$16,039
	Social Services Program	\$22,377
Newton Housing Authority	Resident Services Coordinator	\$11,519
Newton Health and Human Services Department	Mental Health Intervention for the Elderly	\$26,703

# Community Development and Housing

40

People with Disabilities - Organization	Project	Funding Amount
Barry Price Center	Job Developer and Coach	\$14,174
	Person Centered Planning	\$2,688
Charles River Center	Children's Programs Scholarships	\$4,031
	Music Therapy	\$2,778
NWW Committee	Clinical Services and Supports	\$4,851
	Community Access	\$4,180
	Wednesday Night Drop-In	\$4,552



# Community Development and Housing

41

## Economic Development

- Façade Improvement Loan Program
  - Funded through loan repayments from previous revolving loan programs
  - Assist small businesses in making exterior improvements including signage, lighting, energy efficiency, code compliance and accessibility



\$10,500 in Revolving Loan Funds

# Community Development and Housing

42

## Neighborhood Improvements Newtonville

- Pedestrian Safety and Accessibility Improvements  
\$80,000

- Parks/Open Space Improvements  
Court Street Open Space Planning and Design  
\$20,000



# Community Development and Housing

43

## Emergency Solutions Grant

Organization/ESG Component	FY14	FY15 (proposed)
Shelter Services (to be determined through RFP)	\$73,780	\$63,674
Homelessness Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing (to be determined through RFP)	\$0	\$58,788
Street Outreach	\$0	\$10,000
Administration	\$9,228	\$10,740
Homelessness Management Information Systems (HMIS)	\$40,033	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$123,041</b>	<b>\$143,202</b>

- Funds proposed for Street Outreach Component for the first time
- Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing funded for 2-year grant in FY13 (\$126,259)

# Economic Development

44

## Support vitality and economic development of villages and commercial centers

- Foster business-friendly environment
  - Partnerships (Chamber of Commerce, MOBD, IEC)
  - Community Engagement Team
  - Economic Development Cluster
  - Economic Development Commission
    - Development Opportunities in Villages and Corridors
    - Business Development
    - Marketing and Promotion
- Redevelopment of City properties
  - Austin Street
  - Cypress Street Lot



# Conservation and Environment

45

## Protect and enhance our natural resources

- Conservation areas
  - Design and install new entrances in priority areas
  - Initiate maintenance plans for priority areas
- Waban Hill Reservoir
  - Complete appraisal and seek funding
- Hammond Pond
  - Complete design and install infiltration system
  - Establish funding mechanisms and agreements for long-term care
  - Implement strategy for long-term care
- Sudbury Aqueduct
  - Pursue formalizing use of aqueduct for public enjoyment

# Historic Preservation

46

## Enhance and protect the City's historic resources

- Seek grant funds to publish research on Civil War Monument
- Documentation of historic structures
  - Complete Phase III of survey of buildings up to 1870
- Host educational forums on historic resources
  - Design new cemetery tour around Civil War soldiers with markers in cemetery





# Long-Range Planning

47

- Zoning Reform
  - Initiate Phase 2
- Needham Street
  - Complete Master Plan
  - Update zoning
- Future of Wells Office Park
  - Housing and Commercial needs
- Parking Management Plan implementation





**Lewis Carroll**, novelist and poet (1832-1898)  
*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

*"Make no little plans. They have no magic to stir men's blood and probably will not themselves be realized."*

**Daniel Burnham** (1846-1912)







**William Whyte** (1917-1999)

*The Organization Man*

*“What attracts people most, it would appear, is other people.”*

*“Cities have the capability of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when, they are created by everybody.”*



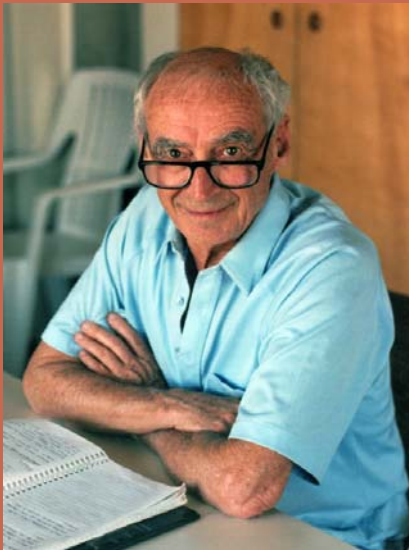
**Jane Jacobs** (1916-2006)

*The Death and Life of Great American Cities*

Paolo Soleri

(1919-2013)

*City in the Image of Man*



- Architect
- Urban Designer
- Founder of Arcosanti
- Cosanti
- Arcology



*"The city is the necessary instrument for the evolution of humankind."*